



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **TWO ILLEGAL ALIENS PLEAD GUILTY TO OPERATING A HOUSE OF PROSTITUTION, ILLEGALLY POSSESSING A FIREARM**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Two men pleaded guilty last week to operating a house of prostitution and employing illegal-alien prostitutes to work in the brothel, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

David L. Huber, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that Mario Alberto Duque-Salinas, 23, of Louisville, and Pedro Estrada-Cortez, 20, of Shelby County, Ky., pleaded guilty Oct. 21 to operating a house of prostitution in Louisville, harboring aliens for the purpose of prostitution, and illegally possessing a firearm.

Duque-Salinas and Estrada-Cortez both admitted that they were operating a house of prostitution on Bardstown Road in Louisville Oct. 12. Duque-Salinas' responsibilities included depositing the proceeds of the house of prostitution into a bank account, and soliciting clients for the operation by handing out business cards. Estrada-Cortez' responsibilities included receiving money from customers and overseeing the house of prostitution.

At the Greyhound Bus Station in Louisville on Oct. 10, Duque-Salinas picked up two illegal alien prostitutes who had traveled from Maryland to work in the brothels. By operating this house of prostitution — Duque-Salinas and Estrada-Cortez aided and abetted by each other — kept, maintained, employed and harbored the prostitutes.

Duque-Salinas, an illegal alien from Venezuela, also possessed a firearm which was kept in the house of prostitution. Estrada-Cortez is an illegal alien from Mexico. Both will be taken into ICE custody to face deportation after they complete any prison sentence ordered.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Madison T. Sewell prosecuted the case. Both defendants are scheduled for sentencing in U.S. District Court in Louisville before Judge Thomas B. Russell Jan. 19. The maximum potential penalties are 20 years' imprisonment, a \$500,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of three years.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*